Appln. No. 10/517,553 Amendment Reply to Office Action dated May 3, 2006

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) <u>A</u> heat exchange unit of the so-ealled multiservice type comprising:

a substantially cylindrical shell closed at the opposite ends by respective base plates; a plurality of heat exchangers supported inside this shell and in fluid communication with the outside thereof;

wherein at least part some of said exchangers are box-shaped plate exchangers formed from a pair of juxtaposed metallic plates mutually distanced and perimetrically joined, to define an inner chamber intended to be crossed by a heat exchange fluid,

wherein a group of a predetermined number of said plate exchangers sharing share an inlet and an outlet so that one or more said group of said plate exchangers contributes to the supply of defines and supplies one of the predetermined services provided by the multiservice heat exchange unit, and

wherein different heat exchange services are combined inside said shell.

- 2. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein said plate exchangers have a flattened configuration and are grouped in a cylindrical arrangement coaxial to the shell, where said plate exchangers are arranged according to a radial configuration.
- 3. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 2, wherein said plate heat exchangers are supported in a plurality of coaxial and concentric arrangements and a group of plate exchangers comprises all the exchangers of a same coaxial and concentric arrangement.
- 4. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein said substantially cylindrical shell is filled with a filler in which said plurality of plate exchangers is immersed.

2

{WP346477;1}

Appln. No. 10/517,553 Docket No. 9526-46

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated May 3, 2006

5. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein said metallic plates of at least one plate exchanger are joined together through a plurality of welding points which give a substantially quilted look.

- 6. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 6, wherein said welding points are distributed in 'quinconce' and/or in square pitch.
- 7. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein said heat exchangers 13 have a substantially rectangular flattened configuration, with opposite long sides parallel to the axis of the shell, and opposite short sides arranged radially inside said shell and equipped on opposite short sides with connectors for the entry and exit of fluid.
- 8. (Currently amended) Heat exchange unit according to claim [[8]] 7, wherein at least one distributor is fixed to a wall of at least one exchanger in a predetermined intermediate position as regards the two opposite short sides, connected, on one side, with said chamber of said exchanger and, on the other side, with a duct for feeding fluid.
- 9. (Currently amended) Heat exchange unit according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein said distributor comprises a carter essentially forming a channelling which, when fixed to said metallic plate of said at least one exchanger, forms with it a chamber in communication with the inside of the exchanger through a plurality of through-holes.
- 10. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said exchangers is internally equipped with a separator plate, extending from one side of said exchanger, towards a side opposite it and from which said plate is in a predetermined spaced relationship, said separator plate having a predetermined length less than that of said long sides, as to which it has a predetermined inclination.

{WP346477;1} 3

Appln. No. 10/517,553 Docket No. 9526-46

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated May 3, 2006

11. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said exchangers is internally equipped in correspondence with the opposite long sides of at least one distributor/collector duct, said duct being connected, on one side, to said chamber through at least one opening and, on the other side, to the outside of the exchanger, through a connector.

- 12. (Currently amended) Heat exchange unit according to claim [[12]] 11, wherein said duct is formed directly in a long side of the exchanger.
- 13. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 12, wherein said at least one exchanger is subdivided into a plurality of chambers.
- 14. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 8, wherein said plate exchangers define an inner chamber of variable size growing in the direction of the imaginary line joining the connectors.
- 15. (Previously presented) Heat exchange unit according to claim 8, wherein said plate exchangers define an inner chamber of variable size decreasing in the direction of the imaginary line joining the connectors.

{WP346477;1} 4